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THE GEORGE-ANNE

www.GADaily.com

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2009 • VOLUME 81 • ISSUE 73



COVERING THE CAMPUS LIKE A SWARM OF GNATS

In for the long haul...

GOHS implements 'Operation Rolling Thunder' on
Bulloch roads for 90 days
Page 7



Special Photo

NEWS

Famed Apollo 13 astronaut
James Lovell comes to campus
on Wednesday. Page 6



Today
Partly Cloudy
63/52



Wednesday
Rain
72/47



Thursday
Rain
59/34

Three-Day Forecast



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breaking news, polls, editors'
blogs, and contests

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Japan to develop midair rocket-launch system

McClatchy News Service

The government has launched a project to develop a midair rocket-launching system that can place satellites in orbit, it has been learned.

The project is aimed at meeting the global demand for low-cost, small satellites that can be developed and produced relatively quickly.

Observers say the project, if successful, would help Japan maintain its international competitiveness in the rocket-launching business.

Midair rocket launches require the technology to both launch a satellite-mounted rocket after an aircraft has flown over the open sea as well as to then separate a satellite from the rocket to send it into orbit.

The midair firing system does not require large launch facilities on the ground and therefore allows for greater flexibility of launches by reducing the impact of restricting factors such as negotiating with local fishery cooperatives on the timing of a launch.

A U.S. firm has undertaken commercial midair rocket launches for about 20 years, and the system has been studied by a number of countries.

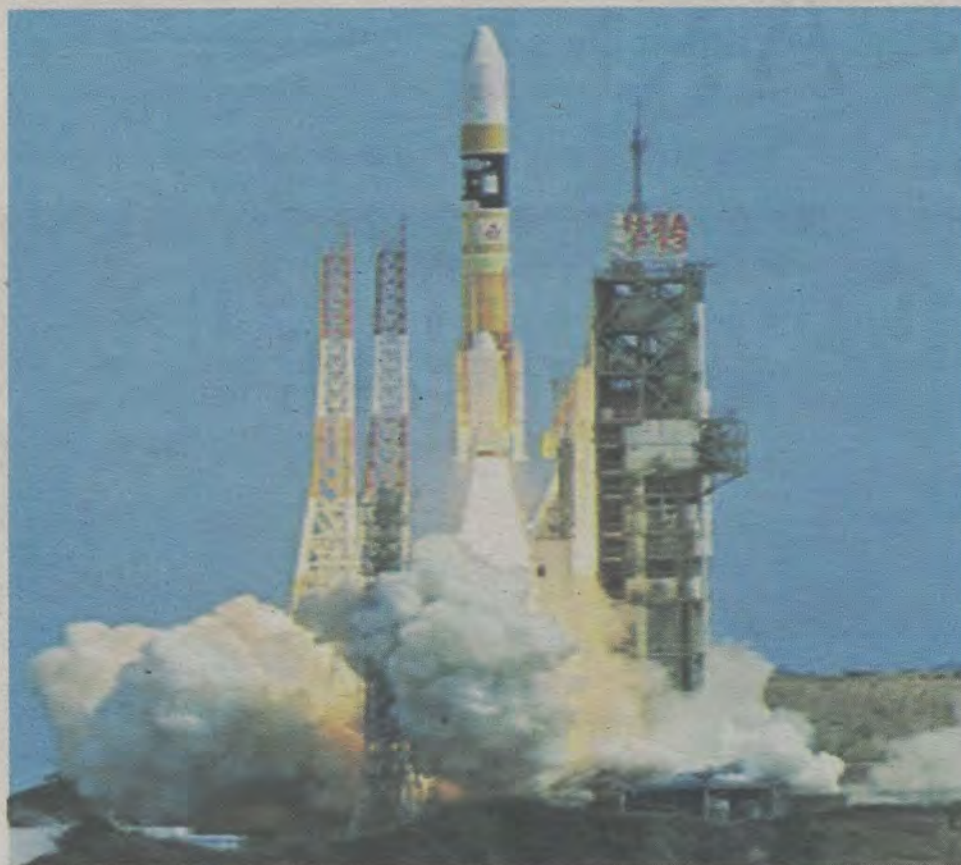
Through the Institute for Unmanned Space Experiment Free Flyer (USEF), the Economy, Trade and Industry Ministry has for about the past three years been conducting research into the technologies needed to mount a solid fuel-powered rocket on aircraft, which means there is no need for liquid fueling immediately before liftoff, as well as associated legal issues.

METI is contemplating accepting proposals from companies in February at the earliest to determine the size of the satellite-launch market and the cost of midair rocket launches.

The ministry plans to develop the midair rocket-launching system at a cost of 10 billion yen to 20 billion yen, about 10 percent of that for the H-2A Greenhouse Gases Observing Satellite, named Ibuki, which was launched Friday.

It also will seek to hold down launch costs to several hundred million yen.

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, which comes under the jurisdiction of the Education, Science and Technology Ministry, also is interested in the midair rocket launching system as a technology that could lead to the development of a spacecraft similar to the U.S. space shuttle.



Special Photo

smart living smart price

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NATIONAL NEWS & POLITICS



Special Photo

Afghanistan speculated to be a tough foreign challenge

McClatchy News Service

The Afghan government added a new wrinkle to the toughest foreign policy challenge confronting the new president by demanding a share of control over the 30,000-strong, NATO-led security force in Afghanistan.

The Afghan government's Jan. 10 plan would give the government authority to approve an increase in International Security Assistance Force troops, which include about 19,500 Americans.

It also would limit home searches or detention of Afghans to Afghan forces and require coordination of "all phases of" NATO ground and air operations "at the highest possible level."

The Taliban are stronger than they've been at any time since the U.S. ousted the puritanical Islamist group in 2001.

Relying on sanctuaries in neighboring areas of Pakistan held by allied Islamic militants, they dominate huge swaths of the south and east of

the Texas-sized country of sweeping deserts and towering peaks.

The insurgents are no match in set-piece battles with some 32,000 U.S. troops and 30,000 soldiers from NATO and non-NATO countries.

Although the Taliban, al-Qaida and other Islamic militant groups still remain active along the remote border between Afghanistan and Pakistan, the Bush administration failed to develop a coherent strategy to coordinate security operations for the future.

U.S. commanders, however, say they don't have enough troops to execute such a strategy, and Obama has embraced a call for another 30,000 U.S. troops for Afghanistan.

Senior U.S. military officials, however, say that increase is probably insufficient for Afghanistan, which is twice the size of Iraq, and they say they lack answers to basic questions, such as what realistically can be achieved in the next three to five years.

OTHER TOP HEADLINES

14-year-old impersonates
police officer

5.7 temblor shakes Alaska

Chinese officials told firm
to buy recalled gyoza
dumplings

Israel's right-wing parties
gain from Gaza offensive

Vietnam Airlines crew
allegedly smuggled goods
into/out of Japan

Supermarket chain removes
3 'gluten-free' products from
shelves

Rash of job cut announcements
total more than 40,000

Liberty City Six terror trial is back
for third time

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, owned and operated by GSU students using facilities provided by the university. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County and Statesboro, Ga. The newspaper is a designated public forum for the Georgia Southern community. Opinions expressed herein are those of the student writers and editors and DO NOT necessarily reflect those of the faculty, staff or administration of GSU, the Student Media Advisory Board or the University System of Georgia. The newspaper is published twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, during most of the academic year. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the student editor by phone at 912.478.5246 or at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu. Readers may access the newspaper and its archives at www.gadaily.com.

ADVERTISING: The newspaper accepts advertising as a community service to help defray publication costs. Inquiries should be directed to the ADS or PAGES, P.O. Box 8001, Georgia Southern University, or by calling 912.478.5418 or 912.478-0566. You can fax any questions to 912.478.7113 or e-mail ads1@georgiasouthern.edu.

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COLOPHONE: The magazine is printed by The Statesboro Herald Publishing Co. in Statesboro, Ga. Body copy in The George-Anne is 10 point Minion Pro on 12 leading. Standard headline size is 40 point Myriad Pro. For more information about the newspaper, please call 912.478.7459, or e-mail the director of student media at kcalloway@georgiasouthern.edu.

SUPPORT: The George-Anne is funded primarily through revenue from advertisements placed in the paper and receives additional support, in part, from the Student Activities Budget Committee.

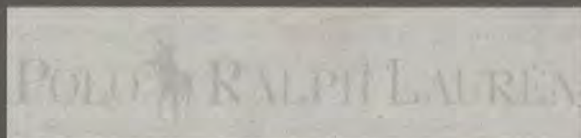
STUDENTS BEWARE: The George-Anne screens all advertisements prior to publication. The magazine strives to accept ads for legitimate products and services only. Students are urged to exercise caution when replying to ads, particularly those which require a credit card number, other personal information, or money in advance of the delivery of a product or service. Students are also urged to report to the newspaper any suspicious offers which they might see in an ad. Remember, if an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is.

DISPLAY AD DEADLINE: The deadline for reserving space and submitting advertising copy is Noon, one week prior to the intended publication date. For more information, rate cards, sample publications, contact the advertising manager or student media director.

PROOFING/ERRORS/OMISSIONS: The newspaper makes every reasonable effort to correct and complete information in advertisements. However, the advertiser is responsible for any errors in advertisements and its liability for adjustments is limited to the amount of space the error occupied in the ad. Further, the newspaper is not responsible for any damages caused due to an ad's omission from a particular edition and its responsibility solely is to reschedule the ad in the next regular edition at the regular advertising rates.

CIRCULATION INFORMATION: Mail subscriptions are not available at this time. However, readers may visit our web site for free access to current and past issues. Visit www.gadaily.com to view online issues. The George-Anne is distributed free of charge on the Georgia Southern campus and surrounding areas.

NOTICE: Readers may pick up one free copy, and a second for a roommate or acquaintance, at distribution sites. Additional copies are 50 cents each and are available at the Williams Center. However, unauthorized removal of additional copies from a distribution site constitutes theft under Georgia law, a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine and/or jail time. Editors will seek to have any person(s) who removes more than the authorized number of copies from distribution sites prosecuted to the full extent of the law.



The Sir Shop

TWO LOCATIONS

Statesboro Mall

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OPINIONS

...WHERE WE ARE RUNNING OUTTA THINGS TO SAY, SO SEND IN A LETTER OR WRITE A COLUMN!

Future leaders of America start here

A leader is not only one who is meant to be followed, but also someone who inspires. Inspirational leaders are followed because they demand the attention of those around them.

One example of a great leader is new president, Barack Obama. Through his articulate speeches and ability to relate to the nation, Obama made a quick rise to the top. He went from being a virtual unknown to one of the most media loved men in America.

Another great leader of today is French president, Nicolas Sarkozy. Within the two years of his time as president, Sarkozy has managed to get his country back on the map, and in the process forming allies for his country.

However, one does not need to be president to be a leader. Leadership is something that can come from anywhere, and with a campus as diverse as GSU, finding an opportunity for leadership can be as simple as finding a passion.

It is important to be a leader, and with Leadership Week going on at Georgia Southern, it is time

to step up and think of ways to take control.

Leadership is a skill that can be carried throughout a lifetime. Employers look for it and employees envy it. Leadership is something that can be learned, but the student must be willing.

Finding opportunities is the easy part. Find a club to be a part of and take initiative. Find a way to move up and push forward. Get involved in campus organizations. Go to SGA meetings and find out what is happening on campus. Go to the Williams Center and talk to Student Media about opportunities that require involvement and leadership.

Most importantly, find a way to inspire. The thing that both of the leaders mentioned have in common is that they have the ability to inspire those around them. Even inspiring one person can show signs of a leader, maybe even the next Barack Obama or Nicolas Sarkozy.

Take advantage of Leadership Week to find a way to be a leader. Break out of that shell and get out on campus, the results could be shocking.

Guest speaker is more infamous than led on

On March 2, 2009, a former member of a United States terrorist organization will be on the Georgia Southern campus. Of course you probably didn't know that since the university has not advertised it.



Marshall Hooks

is a senior political science major from Dawson, Ga. He is the Managing Editor of GADaily.com.

William "Bill" Ayers, former member of Weather Underground, will be giving a lecture to students in collaboration with the Multicultural Student Center.

I am thrilled to hear his speech, however, I feel students are being misled as to who he is and what skeletons remain in his closet that

have yet to be revealed.

One of which happens to be his close ties to President Barack Obama during the 2008 election.

When Georgia Southern students were first informed that Bill Ayers was coming to speak at the Performing Arts Center, he was promoted as a distinguished scholar, professor, author, and

lecturer.

It was not mentioned that he was the co-founder of Weather Underground, a terrorist organization that gained its fame during the 1960s and 1970s for bombing prominent United States institutions, including The Pentagon and U.S. Capitol Building.

The group was also responsible for several murders, of which Ayers was not suspected of being a part of.

I feel that this information should have been revealed to students whether they knew who Bill Ayers was or not, especially if Georgia Southern wanted a large crowd in attendance.

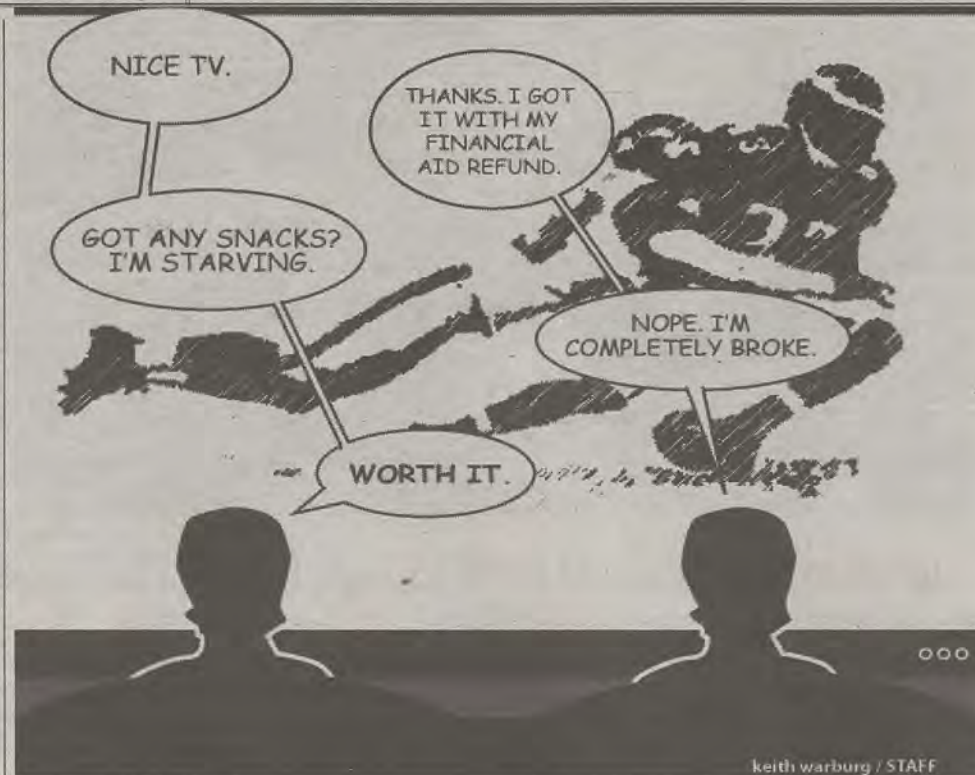
Other students I have talked with stated the same thing and were quite shocked to hear that a former terrorist was coming to speak at our university.

While I do believe people can change and redeem themselves by bettering themselves and their respected communities, I feel that Georgia Southern failed in revealing all of the information about Bill Ayers to the student body.

He may be a distinguished professor and a famous author, but to me he will always remain the figurehead of a terrorist organization that had a violent impact on American society during the 1960s.

Submission of Letters to the Editor

The George-Anne Daily welcomes letters to the editor, story submissions and guest columns. All copy submitted should be 350 words or less, typed, and sent via e-mail in Microsoft Word format to gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu or via facebook to Jessica Martin. All submissions must be signed and include phone number for verification. GSU students should include their academic major, year at GSU, and hometown. The editors reserve the right to edit or reject any submission.



keith warburg / STAFF

Is smart the new sexy? Beyonce signals trend

By Kevin Horrigan

McClatchy News Service

On inauguration night, Robin Roberts of ABC News interviewed Beyonce shortly after the world-famous singer performed for Barack and Michelle Obama's first dance at one of the inaugural balls.

Beyonce, so happy she was almost in tears, told Roberts that Obama's victory has changed her life. "He makes me want to be smarter; he makes me want to be more involved," she said.

This was alarming. Here's a woman who, according to Forbes magazine, made \$80 million in 2007. She and her husband, the hip-hop entrepreneur Jay-Z, were ranked by the magazine as Hollywood's richest couple. And now, after getting involved in politics for the first time, she has decided she wants to be smarter.

Not richer. Not more beautiful. Not more successful. But smarter. And more involved.

What if this starts a trend? What if all the young people whose ambitions extend no further than to be like Beyonce and Jay-Z decide that they, too, want to be smarter? Are schools prepared for this? Are teachers?

What happens to institutions like People magazine, the E Network, MTV and their ilk, those that cater to the vapid? What happens to the whole celebrity culture? Will all those perky anchor creatures be tossed onto the unemployment lines?

Can America survive it if being smart suddenly

becomes cool?

Of course, there are many ways of being smart. You can be street smart. You can be smart as in practical and shrewd.

But if you're going to be Obama-smart, you're going to have to be educated smart. There's a lot of reading involved.

George W. Bush, if we can believe Karl Rove, did a lot of reading, too.

The former president and his political guru used to engage in reading competitions, Rove told the Wall Street Journal, and while Rove usually won, the president was no slacker.

By December, Rove wrote, Mr. Bush had read 40 books in 2008, including David Halberstam's "The Coldest Winter"; Rick Atkinson's "Day of Battle"; Hugh Thomas's "Spanish Civil War"; Stephen W. Sears's "Gettysburg"; David King's "Vienna 1814"; and U.S. Grant's "Personal Memoirs."

But to be Obama smart, you have to read a lot of stuff by dead white males. And that stuff is hard.

It gets a little easier after you leave college.

Mr. Obama's Facebook page lists his favorite books as "Song of Solomon" by Toni Morrison; Melville's "Moby Dick"; "Parting the Waters" by Taylor Branch; Marilynne Robinson's "Gilead"; Emerson's "Self-Reliance"; the Bible and Lincoln's collected writings.

Obama's reading list is pretty intimidating; my tastes run closer to Bush's, which I suppose makes me "Bush smart."

Counseling Center offers group therapy sessions and workshops this semester

Tiffany Colston

Guest Writer

Students at GSU looking to handle their day-to-day challenges with more ease and grow personally have the opportunity to participate in group therapy sessions this semester.

The Counseling and Career Development Center provides students with a comforting atmosphere to do so.

In groups, students can share common problems, safely interact with others and help others learn about themselves.

This semester several workshops, seminars and support groups are being offered that students may benefit from including a "Stress & Anxiety Workshop" as well as a number of other groups such as "Understanding Self and Others," "A Guided Journey to the Self," "Finding Balance: Developing Personal Effectiveness" and "What Your Momma Never Taught Ya."

The first group session of the year, "Rainbow Connection" was a success and the center is hoping for a good turnout this year.

The self reflection workshops will not only help you increase your self-awareness through writing exercises spanning personality traits and relationship patterns, but it will help you improve and explore your relationships with others.

In the "Finding Balance" workshop, students will have the opportunity to decipher when to compromise or stand your ground and realize

that you don't have to allow people to take advantage of you.

According to Dr. Kim Rowan, a counselor at the Counseling and Career Development Center, the therapy groups help students reach their individual and group goals after finding common ground with others.

"In the past, students have left groups feeling normalized and have realized that other people share the same problems they have," Rowan said.

"They have also helped them gain support, confidence and helped them become more comfortable with their peers."

Some students may want to attend group sessions, but are simply too uncomfortable to confide in people they don't know.

Scott Sokoloski, a counselor at the Counseling and Career Development Center, ensures students who feel this way, will leave the center feeling encouraged and find resolutions to their problems and better ways to cope with them.

For students looking for assistance when it comes to managing stress who don't have time to attend the workshops, there's another alternative.

The center has developed online relaxation exercises available at <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/counseling>.

Students with iPods can participate in these relaxation podcasts. For more information about the workshops and group sessions the center offers contact Dr. Kim Rowan at (912) 478-5541.



Chris Buchanan/STAFF

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Sex offender who won Alaska lottery beaten with pipe

McClatchy Newspapers

ANCHORAGE, Alaska - The man who won the state's first half-million dollar lottery was attacked on a downtown street Tuesday with a tire iron or metal pipe, according to Anchorage police.

Police say Alec Ahsoak, 53, was attacked at about 3:30 p.m. when a man, accompanied by two women, approached him to ask if he was the man who won the \$500,000 jackpot.

Whether the attack was motivated by Ahsoak's winning the lottery or the widely distributed reports that Ahsoak is a three-time convicted sex offender is not known.

"There was no apparent attempt at robbery," police Lt. Dave Parker said. "He was struck eight to 10 times, and then he threw his Pepsi at the assailant and he ran for Phyllis' Cafe and the assailant ran off."

By Tuesday evening, Ahsoak had been discharged from the hospital and police had taken a

man and one woman into custody, Parker said.

Ahsoak told officers he had been stopped by a white man believed to be about 21 and wearing a blue-and-white checkered shirt, blue jeans and a white baseball cap as he entered the 5th Avenue Mall.

The stranger asked if he was the lottery winner, and Ahsoak said he was, then went into the mall.

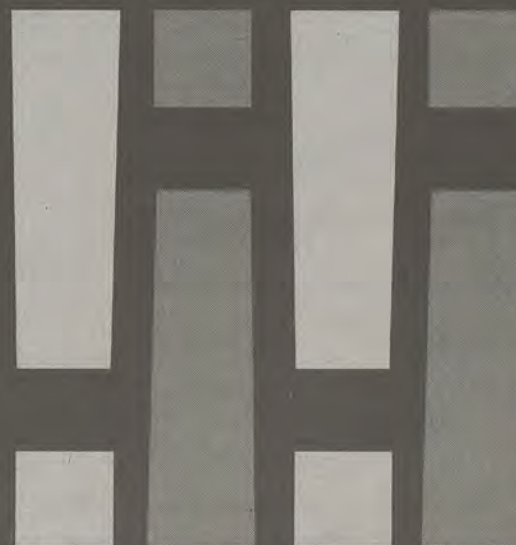
When he walked out minutes later carrying a Pepsi, the man approached him and began hitting him on the head with the weapon, police said.

"Oh my God, I was so afraid something was going to happen to him," said Nancy Haag, executive director of Standing Together Against Rape, the nonprofit that benefitted from the lottery.

"I'm just very sorry to hear that this has happened. ... Nobody deserves to be a victim of any kind of violence, and that's our stand."

Ahsoak was transported to a local hospital to be treated for his injuries, which did not appear to be life-threatening, police said.

ATTENTION: UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS



4 students participating in this survey will win
\$50 gift certificates
to the University Store
and 2 students will win a
MEET AND GREET
PASS FOR THE SPRING CONCERT

On January 26th, 2009 a random sample of undergraduate students at Georgia Southern were emailed invitations to participate in the **Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership**

Please participate in this **IMPORTANT SURVEY**. Your confidential responses will be an invaluable source of information to the University as it enhances our knowledge of college student leadership development.

BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR EMAIL
[By mid-January, all participants will receive a reminder email from the MSL with the subject "Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership"]

If you have any questions about the MSL, please contact
Jodi Middleton
Office of Student Leadership & Civic Engagement
(912) 478-1435
jmiddleton@georgiasouthern.edu

Apollo 13 Astronaut James Lovell comes to the PAC for Leadership and Civic Engagement Week



Special Photo

By Ben Carroll
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, January 28 at 6:30, James Lovell Jr. will make the presentation, "A Successful Failure", at the Performing Arts Center.

Captain James Lovell is a retired NASA 11-year veteran astronaut who is most famous for his participation in the Apollo 13 space mission.

Lovell will be coming to Georgia Southern in conjunction with the 3rd Annual Leadership and Civic Engagement Week, which is run by the Office of Leadership and Civic Engagement with the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management helping bring James Lovell here, which is from January 26th through January 30th.

His Apollo 13 participation has even landed him in recent popular culture. He was played by Tom Hanks in the movie, "Apollo 13," and he credited with the phrase, "Houston, we have a problem."

James Lovell's astronaut career started in September 1962, where he was the backup pilot for a multiple of the Gemini missions and commanded Gemini 12 mission, which successfully ended the Gemini Program.

He then became the command module pilot

and navigator in the Apollo 8 mission, which was the first moon landing in human history.

The Apollo 13 space mission objective was to land on an area of the moon called the Fra Mauro, but due a multitude of complications on the spaceship, the crew was only able to orbit around it.

"His experience with the Apollo 13 mission gives him a completely different look at leadership," said Jodi Middleton, Assistant Director of Student Affairs, "In such a historical mission that failed, his efforts still helped improve other missions and helped keep the other astronauts alive. The leadership he had to show during the mission is a type of leadership that many people don't get to see," Middleton said.

"We have had a strong support from the community of Statesboro. All 5th graders in the Quest program, which is for high achieving science students, are going to the talk, which is in conjunction with their trip to the Kennedy Space Center that they leave for on Thursday," according to Middleton.

This is a free event, so there are no tickets. The primary auditorium will be the PAC, which holds 800 people, and once that is filled, the overflow will go to the Nessmith Lane auditorium, which will have live-feed of the presentation.

UPCOMING IN THE ARTS

Event: Latin American Posters
Date: January 12- March 12
Location: Center for Art and Theatre

Event: Soldier Portraits by Ellen Susan
Date: January 30 - March 12
Location: Center for Art and Theatre

Event: Oliver!
Date: February 6
Location: PAC

Event: George Winston
Date: February 20
Location: PAC

Event: Trojan Women
Date: February 27- March 7
Location: Black Box Theatre

Event: Mame
Date: February 27 - March 7
Location: Averitt Center

Event: In The Woods Spring Musical
Date: March 13 - 14
Location: Averitt Center

Event: CristoFouri
Date: March 28
Location: Averitt Center

Event: A Flea In Her Ear
Date: April 9 - 11
Location: Averitt Center

Event: A Man For All Seasons
Date: April 22 - 25
Location: PAC

Event: Wizard Of Oz
Date: April 23
Location: PAC

Event: Appointment With Death
Date: April 24 - 26
Location: Averitt Center

Event: Seven Brides For Seven Brothers
Date: May 1 - 3
Location: Averitt Center

Event: Celebration South
Date: April 18
Location: Averitt Center

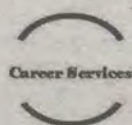
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<http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/career>



Phone: 912-478-5197

Email: Careersv@georgiasouthern.edu

Bulloch County in 'Dirty Dozen,' of Georgia law enforcement reacts



Special Photo

INTERESTING FACTS

Georgia Southern Total Liquor Law Arrests between 2005-2007: 798

Liquor Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action 2005-2007: 1065

Drug Law Arrests from 2005-2007: 235

GOHS SUCCESS SO FAR:

Savannah-Chatham 2007

Reduced Traffic Fatalities by 68%

Bartow/Paulding

Reduced Traffic Fatalities by 87%

Barrow/Ocoee

31 Fugitives, 137 Motorists without licenses, 256 DUI's

Operation Rolling Thunder comes to Bulloch

By Shannon Knepp

News Editor

Since January 22, the Statesboro police and highway patrol have been swarming the streets, and students have taken notice.

Georgia Southern graduate student, Elena Bencini has been stopped by the police already while driving through town. "We were driving down Lanier and they [stopped us] and asked if we had been drinking," Bencini said of the incident.

The reason for the sudden rise in roadblocks and police cars is due to Operation Rolling Thunder.

This is the result of the high number of car crashes and fatalities in the Statesboro area. Statesboro has been named one of the "Deadly Dozen" in Georgia, and Operation Rolling Thunder is here to bring these numbers down.

According to a release given by the Governor's Office of Highway Safety Director, Bob Dallas, the purpose of Thunder is to reduce the number of reckless driving on the road.

Operation Thunder brought in outside forces to help with the roadblocks and brigades being put up.

According to the Assistant Public Information Officer of the Governor's Office of Highway

Safety, Katie Fallon, "The agencies participating in Rolling Thunder include local police department officers, Bulloch County deputies and Georgia State Patrol troopers. The 90-day operation includes increased traffic enforcement and periodic nights when sobriety checkpoints (the time and location of which are not revealed ahead of time) will be set up."

A release given by the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, says that within the first nine months of 2008, 14 fatal crashes were reported in Bulloch County, and, according to Jim Brown, senior Georgia State Patrolman, only three of those killed were wearing seatbelts.

Officers will be conducting seatbelt checks and sobriety tests to drivers to help reduce the number of traffic fatalities in Bulloch County.

This is the second year and fourth installment of Operation Thunder. Fallon claims, the last location was in Barrow-Oconee county, where the University of Georgia is located. Fallon said that during a big game weekend, approximately 103 DUI's were given out in the span of two nights.

The operation kicked off on January 21, when the GOHS Taskforce held a news conference at the US 301 Bypass. Operation Rolling Thunder will last for the next 90 days, and roadblocks will be at various roads throughout Bulloch County.



Special Photo

GSU housing prepares for spring 'house calls'

By Sarah Goodwin

Staff Writer

Georgia Southern's housing department is gearing up for Spring Semester house calls for freshman taking place on January 26 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Volunteers from the housing department, residence assistants, former graduates, and student staff from other departments around campus will be going door to door to talk to freshman about their first semester experiences at Southern and to welcome them back to campus.

This semester, there is an anticipated 40 volunteers from the different departments around campus. "It's always fun to be partnered up with volunteers from different departments. I learn more about their department by working with them," said Elbracht.

"We want to check up on them and see how their first semester is going," said Julia Tipton, a Student Development Specialist.

"We went door to door and asked people how their semester went and gave them goodies," said junior Cara Griffin who volunteered last year with the GSU cheerleading squad. "I talked to freshman on the honors floor at Eagle Village. It was fun!"

These 'house calls' are made at the beginning

of every fall and spring semester, and also in the summer for the Eagle Incentive Program students. The staffers hand out welcome back packets with informational flyers, pens, scantrons, and other gifts to the students they visit.

This semester, the students that are visited during the house calls will be entered into a raffle to win a grand prize. The grand prize for this semester is a Wii game system. "We got one and we're excited," said Tipton.

The goal of house calls is to check up on the students new to the Southern campus and make sure they are doing fine according to Tipton. The volunteers give the students advice and make sure they are taking advantage of things around campus.

"My favorite part of house calls is making sure they are aware of what campus has to offer and hearing their reactions when they hear about what is on campus that they didn't know about," said Lee Elbracht, the senior administrative secretary for the Housing Department.

"This is a great opportunity to get to know the freshman around campus and be able to help them out with anything they need. It's all about making the campus feel more like a family and like we're all here to help one another," said Griffin.



Chris Buchanan/STAFF

1st Anniversary Wing Eating Contest

Sponsored by Pilgrim's Pride and Franks Redhot

January 31, 2009 at Jaman's Caribbean Cafe

Entry Fee: \$20.00

PRIZES:

1st:

Choice of charity, trophy, and 52 orders of 12 wings to be eaten that winner's leisure

2nd:

Trophy and 8 orders of 12 wings.

3rd:

4 orders of 12 wings

WEEKLY SPECIALS:

Tuesday:

\$7.99 All-You-Can-Eat Boneless Wings

Wednesday:

30 cent wings

Saturday:

Karaoke @ 8:00 P.M.

if you are under the age of 21 it is illegal to purchase alcoholic beverages.



CALENDAR

Tuesday, January 27

Time: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Event: Course V: Cost Approach to Value

Location: Nessmith Lane 2904

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Event: Class Dean Search Luncheon

Location: Union Board Room

Time: 12 - 2 p.m.

Event: Brown Bag Series

Location: Russell Union 2080

Time: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Event: Leadership Workshop Series

Location: Russell Union 2041

Time: 6 - 7 p.m.

Event: Student Media Interest Meeting

Location: Russell Union 2044

Time: 8 - 10 p.m.

Event: Creative Writing Club

Location: Newton Building Classroom 1111

Time: 9 - 11 p.m.

Event: Swing Cats Society Meeting

Location: College Plaza Building

Wednesday, January 28

Time: 8 - 5 p.m.

Event: Course V: Cost Approach to Value

Location: Nessmith Lane 2904

Time: 12 - 1 p.m.

Event: Leadership and Civic Engagement

Location: Russell Union 2048

Time: 12 - 6 p.m.

Event: Red Cross Blood Drive

Location: Williams Center Dining Hall

Time: 5 - 6 p.m.

Event: Capt Jim Lovell Lecture

Location: Nessmith Lane Conference Room

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Event: SGA Meeting

Location: Russell Union Ballroom

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Event: Captain Jim Lovell of Apollo 13

Location: Performing Arts Center

Time: 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Event: NAACP Biweekly Meetings

Location: Russell Union 2084

The Green Corner Presents: A Sagacious Survey

By Philip Clements

Features Editor

From September to November 2008, the campus environmental club SAGE (Student Alliance for a Green Earth) conducted a survey of over 1,500 students to determine the general attitude towards sustainability on campus.

Following up on the survey conducted by SAGE in fall 2007, the new survey asked more specific questions that expanded upon the results of the original survey. "It was a great tool to gauge student feedback and which direction we need to go," said Juliette Jordan, the president of SAGE.

The 2007 survey, which also garnered over 1,500 participants, dealt with the more basic questions of campus sustainability to get a feel for what the student body wanted.

The biggest discovery was that 94.9 percent of participants felt that a clean, renewable energy campaign was either important or very important for Georgia Southern University to implement.

The 2007 survey was also the first time SAGE was able to test the concept of a "Green fee" to an audience outside their weekly club meetings. The Green fee would be used for "energy conservation and environmentally friendly designs in buildings" as well as to "obtain clean energy sources for campus."

According to the 2007 survey, 90.2 percent of the student body is in favor of a Green fee of \$5 or more. The 2008 survey updated that number to an even 80 percent in favor of the Green fee.

With the 2008 survey, participants were asked to delve deeper into these issues and pinpoint the specific changes they would like to see. The questions covered several different aspects of campus life, including the bus system, bike riding, food services, and the Green fee.

THE BUS SYSTEM

According to the survey, 62 percent of the student body uses the bus. This is a good thing in and of itself, because it means that students are taking advantage of and supporting an energy efficient mode of transportation.

The only real deterrence from riding the bus is convenience due to the bus not going the right way or not stopping where you live. Sometimes it is just quicker to walk from Russell Union to Lakeside than it is to take the bus.

69 percent of the survey participants agree that the buses should run both ways on campus to increase convenience and efficiency. It is speculated that if the bus ran both ways, more students would be inclined to ride it and thus cut down on the number of vehicles on the road and decrease travel time.

Those that live too far from the bus stops are also more likely to drive their car to campus. More bus stops would also increase the number of riders, with 53 percent saying the buses should stop at more student apartment complexes.

BIKES

While the majority (74 percent) of students do not ride a bike on campus, 53 percent still voted in favor of more bike racks on campus. Higher numbers of bike racks increase the incentive to ride your bike to class because there would no longer be a necessity to stash your bike at a building other than the one where you have class.

In addition to more bike racks, 68 percent also believe that there should be more bike lanes on campus. Bike lanes not only decrease the travel time for those on bikes but also make it safer for those that choose to hoof it on the sidewalk or pedestrian.

DINING SERVICES

One of the issues people have with the food on campus is that the bulk of it comes from other places. 63 percent said that they would favor a switch to locally grown food where applicable. "The Farmer's Market held downtown has great food and we should be supporting those growers as a university," said Jordan.

In addition, 62 percent is also in favor of an increase in organic foodstuffs available on campus and 78 percent said they support the switch from Styrofoam to a more eco-friendly alternative.

68 percent agreed that there should be a system implemented to compost the food waste for



Special Photo

future use in gardening. As a result, the Eagle Dining Service will begin a pilot composting project on February 16 at Landrum to test the costs and benefits.

So, what does all this mean?

"I think the message is clear: we want to see change happen," said Jessica Sparrow, the vice president of SAGE. "It really shows us where the student body's priorities are."

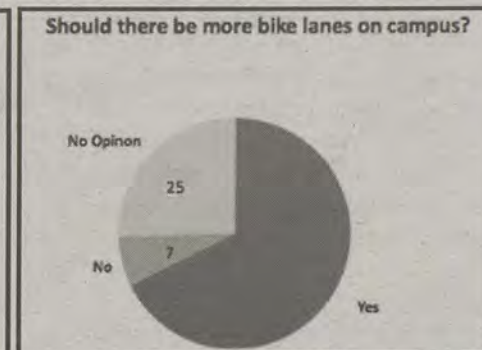
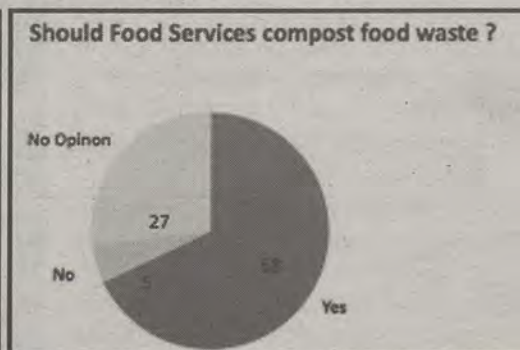
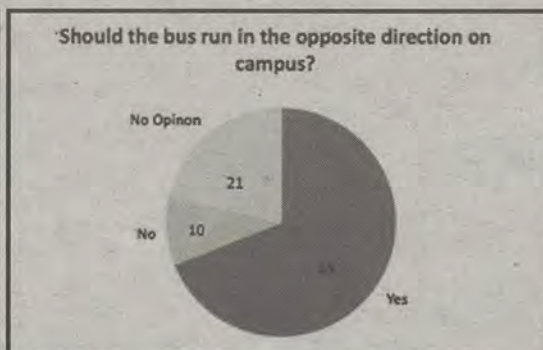
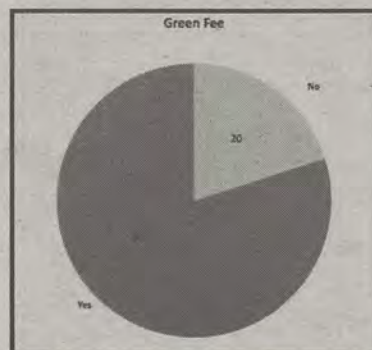
There has been a surge of environmental awareness these past few years and the younger generations are leading many of the tiny revolutions across the country toward sustainability. By supporting green initiatives and eco-friendly

practices, the student body at Georgia Southern University is joining the national effort to move American toward sustainability.

"These things affect us every day," said Jordan. "We're just simply becoming more aware of our impact and doing what we can to minimize that impact."

For those students who would like to find out more, SAGE has weekly meetings in Russell Union 2044 on Wednesdays at 5:00p.m.

You can also visit the club's website at: <http://www.bio.georgiasouthern.edu/bio-home/SAGE>



all pie charts provided by SAGE



Special Photo

Hearts and Hands clinic opening August 2009

By Sarah Goodwin

Staff Writer

A group of Georgia Southern students is coming together to form a non-profit organization in Statesboro called the Hearts and Hands Clinic.

"It is a primary care clinic for the uninsured public of Statesboro, and it is completely free," said Emmie Boyer, the vice president for the clinic.

The Hearts and Hands Clinic Inc., A Volunteers In Medicine Alliance will hopefully be opened by August 2009 at the Ogeechee River Baptist Association, said Boyer.

"This clinic will be open two Saturdays a month but hopefully if we get more funding, will be able to be open more," said Ally Rakoczy, the marketing and fundraising chairman for the project and a marketing major here at Southern.

This vision originated in August 2008 with a group of students from the Chemistry Department, and began to pick up speed in early October.

This project is completely run by a group of about a hundred volunteers from different programs around campus and not directly involved with Georgia Southern, due to legality issues.

The President of this project is Andres Montes, and there is also a board of student committee leaders which include: a business major, a pre-law major, two marketing majors, two pre-medical majors, and a research and development major, said Boyer.

"This is an unprecedented event," said Rakoczy. "Nothing like this has ever been done by a group

of students. Especially with the economy the way it is, we hope to make it easier on people. This is an underserved area."

However, the funding for this project is still pending. "Currently we have zero funding. That's why we're trying to get our name out there," said Boyer.

"Our goal is a million dollars. We are setting our sights high, because it is a project that will endure long after we're gone," said Rakoczy.

According to Rakoczy the clinic will need somewhere between \$50,000 and \$75,000 to open in August.

Representatives from the clinic committees are hoping to team up with businesses and the community of Statesboro to make this vision a reality.

"We're getting a lot of outside help from around the state of Georgia," said Boyer.

"Through this program, we hope to be a positive influence to the community and the student body to show the community that we want to give back to the place we're going to live for the next four years," said Rakoczy.

The project is holding a logo contest for the clinic and is hoping for submissions from the student body. "It's great if you're an art major, because you can put it on a resume since we are a corporation," said Boyer.

Also, in late February or March, they are planning a meet and greet with the board of directors to allow people to make donations, learn about the project, hear about the progress, and understand the goals and vision of the team. All donations are tax deductible.

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COMMUNITIES

SSDP fights for a 'good samaritan policy'

By Cameron Powell

Guest writer

Georgia Southern's chapter of Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP) is pushing for change in the drug policies of the campus by way of the "Good Samaritan" program according to chapter president Aaron Herlocker.

Medical Amnesty policies such as the Good Samaritan program typically only apply to the person in need of medical assistance.

In particular, the policy only applies to direct violations of University Code of Conduct but does not grant amnesty for criminal, civil, or legal repercussions of federal and/or state law.

In essence, if a student was inebriated and caused bodily harm to themselves as a result of punching or kicking university property, the aforementioned student would not be subject to punishment for consumption of alcohol or drugs, but still would be held accountable for vandalism of university property.

SSDP

is an international grassroots student organization whose

main focus is the impact drug abuse has on communities across America.

With the Good Samaritan program, SSDP plans to make moves to educate students on the physical, mental and emotional adverse effects drug overdose and abuse can induce.

The program was created for the main purpose of working with the school's administration to encourage students involved in potential drug overdose situations by calling for medical help which would grant them amnesty from campus drug penalties.

Members of SSDP have pledged to work with student and faculty leaders to craft a policy that promotes responsible action during life-threatening situations.

While SSDP does not advocate drug abuse or misuse, but they do support the safe use of drugs if a student chooses to consume drugs.

The Higher Education Act of 1965, commonly known as the "HSA" was a part of then President Lyndon B. Johnson's Great Society.

Intended "to strengthen the educational resources of our colleges and universities and to provide financial assistance for students in postsecondary and higher education," it increased the amount received by universities

and created an excess of available scholarships nationwide.

"Students everywhere are hindered by programs like the Higher Education Act, where on your FAFSA, if you have a drug conviction you can't receive financial aid," said Herlocker.

"They don't ask you if you have a murder conviction, rape conviction, arson anything violent like that. That is why SSDP was originally founded, to fight this act."

However, the 1998 amendments gave birth to the Aid Elimination Provision, which is a substantial financial gift to those who have criminal records untarnished with a drug charge, but is a curse to students with past drug charges because it cripples their chances of walking down the road to federal aid eligibility for colleges and universities.

Seen on all FAFSA forms is the question that is the problem child of this very amendment.

The infamous "number 31" asks if the student has ever been convicted of a drug crime while receiving federal financial aid.

If the student answers "Yes" or the question is left unanswered, the student is completely

denied federal aid.

SSDP currently has a case against this provision (SSDP vs. Spellings).

According to Herlocker, SSDP has submitted a resolution packet to the Student Government Association on which they will vote supporting this Wednesday.

"The SGA has no direct affiliation with SSDP, nor do they agree or disagree with any of SSDP's views as with any other student organization.

They are under the umbrella of Georgia Southern's student organizations just as SGA is," said James Kicklighter, PR for SGA.

Kicklighter had no direct knowledge of any resolution being submitted to Senate due to his brief absence from senate.

If you are interested in supporting the Good Samaritan program, you can dial (912) 478-3326 and ask to speak with or leave a message for Dean Lewis expressing your desire for the administration to enact the policy.

For more information about SSDP and their fight against drug abuse, you may contact SSDP's GSU chapter president, Aaron Herlocker at (478) 290-0669, ah00220@georgiasouthern.edu, or go to www.ssdp.org.



Special Graphic



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**Deposit will be refunded when you attend the event or cancel by Feb. 20, 2009*

This event is open to seniors & graduate students. Students who have not attended the event previously will receive first seating priority. First come, first served!

Deadline to secure a seat is Friday, February 13, no exceptions.

Dining for Success Registration Form

Name _____

*Please fill out completely.

Campus P.O. Box Address _____

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Method of Payment MUST Be Check

☐ Amount _____

☐ Check # _____

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☐ Attended Before: YES or NO

☐ Email Address _____

☐ Number of people you are paying for _____

☐ Names _____

☐ Names _____

If you are paying for more than just yourself, there must be an equal number of registration forms attached.

It is important that you fill out your contact information fully. You will be receiving confirmation of attendance by email. Incomplete forms will not be accepted. Make check payable to Career Services and return to Williams Center Room 1047. No cash or credit card deposits will be accepted!

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
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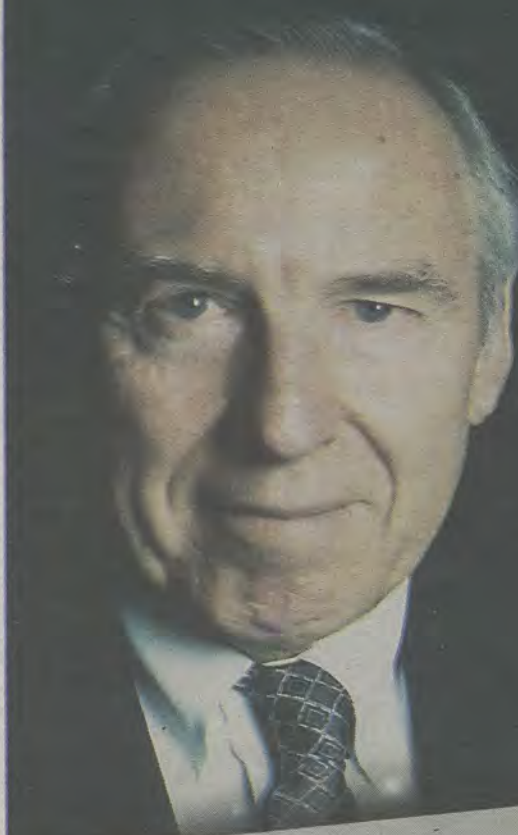
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YOUR STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES AT WORK



Chris Buchanan/STAFF

Students address problems with buses, student parking

By Heren Richardson

Guest writer

A few years ago, Georgia Southern was experiencing some growing pains as it struggled to accommodate a steadily increasing population of 17,000 students.

Besides increasing living space and renovating certain structures, the campus had a bigger problem on its hands.

Students often arrived late to classes or burned gas cruising around for available space.

Add to this a hefty priced parking permit and designated parking areas and it's not hard to see why students were a little upset.

"It was a mess," said senior Kelly Joans. "There was nowhere to park on campus, and I had to walk from the stadium most days."

In order to relieve the stress of its students, Georgia Southern decided to make another change.

It added a bus route to ensure that students who lived close to campus could get to school without worrying about the availability of parking.

However, the school included a \$45 fee for students, whether or not they rode the bus; a decision not everyone has embraced.

"I don't see why I have to pay these fees, since I don't ride the bus" said freshman Ken Williams. "They should require only students who use the bus to pay."

Other students expressed similar views about the system and wanted to know why the bus system couldn't simply make students to pay each time they rode. However, most students didn't seem to object to the bus and transit fee.

"Though I don't use it all the time, it's definitely better than nothing" said senior Terrell Rener. "It's a good system, and not that expensive."

But complaints weren't limited to the bus fee, some students even brought up quality issues with

the buses; such as doors not working properly, uncomfortable temperatures on the bus; drivers being rude, and buses sometimes taking too long to leave from certain spots.

"If I didn't have the bus, I couldn't get to class, but I can understand why those who don't ride the bus complain about it," said Jones.

Bob Chambers, director of Parking and Transportation Auxiliary Services, gave insight as to why the bus system may not entirely be up to certain standards, but still provides an invaluable service to the campus.

"The buses weren't made to move people around campus, but it was introduced to augment parking," said Chambers.

"Our first priority is getting students to campus." Chambers indicated that the busing system has added new routes, as well as more-buses to ensure that more students were being picked up.

Chambers also stated that the transportation fee was pretty affordable in comparison to other campuses, which might charge students \$55 to \$70.

Despite the fee, Chambers indicated that the busing system would be difficult to improve.

"We can't afford to improve the buses," said Chambers. "We already spend \$100 on each bus per hour."

Chambers also indicated that it would be difficult to implement a fair system, since it would be extremely difficult to keep up with who has paid, and who hasn't.

Furthermore, Chambers indicated that not all students are paying the fee, but were still using the buses.

Despite this, Chambers remains optimistic about the future of the bus program and looks forward to improving the system.

"We're going to ask for a fee increase next year," said Chambers. "[With more money] we may be able to do something more."

POLICE BEAT

January 22, 2009

A domestic dispute was reported at Southern Courtyard.

Christopher M. Covington, 22, Park Place, was charged with DUI and improper turn.

Cameron Douglas Naab, 20, Southern Pines, was charged with DUI.

Jesse Dillon Smith, 19, Eagle Village, was charged with minor in possession/consumption of alcohol.

Thomas Maurice Everett, 28, Gordon Street, was charged with DUI, driving with suspended license and failure to maintain lane.

Joseph Christopher Cody, 21, Van Garden Road, Hinesville, was charged with DUI and failure to obey a traffic device.

January 23, 2009

Walker Joseph Brewer, 19, Southern Pines, was charged with minor in possession/consumption of alcohol and criminal trespass.

January 24, 2009

Blayne Alexander Coleman, 18, Southern Pines, was charged with possession of marijuana and possession of drug-related objects.

Eric Daniel Spoltman, 18, Overlook Dr., Villa Rica, was charged with possession of marijuana and possession of drug-related objects.

January 25, 2009

A laptop computer was taken from Eagle Village.

A University Villas resident reported a case of financial identity theft.

Saman Balkhanian, 18, Eagle Village, was charged with minor in possession/consumption of alcohol and public indecency.

Stuart Joseph Schrick, 18, Eagle Village, was charged with minor in possession/consumption of alcohol and public indecency.

Ryan Gregory Scott, 18, Watson Hall, was charged with possession of marijuana.

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260 Miscellaneous for Sale
270 Motorcycles for Sale
280 Trade & Barter
290 Wanted

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320 Child Care Needed
330 Child Care Provider
340 Internships/Volunteer
350 Jobs/Full Time
360 Jobs/Part Time
370 Opportunities/Business
380 University Work
390 Wanted Jobs

400 Housing & Real Estate

410 Apartments
420 Lofts & Rooms
430 Mobile Homes
440 Real Estate for Sale
450 Roommates Wanted
460 Storage & Moving Services
470 Student Housing
480 Sub Leases

490 Vacation Rentals

500 Personals
510 Personals
600 Services
610 Education & Tutoring
620 Financial Aid/Loans
630 Legal Services
640 Resumes/Typing/OTD
650 Services/Miscellaneous

700 Travel

710 Spring Break Travel
800 Transportation/Rides
810 Transportation/Rides
900 Miscellaneous
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Announcements 100 - 199

130 Lost & Found

Lost female tan/white pitbull. No collar. Answers to Bailey. Last seen near Gnats/K-Bob's on 1/15/09. Reward if found. Call (770) 855-1604

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What is all this talk about change? Why not make some changes on campus! Join the Student Alliance for a Green Earth. Every Wednesday in the union room 2044 at 5 o'clock. georgiasouthernsage@gmail.com

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Male Dumerils Ground Boa for sale. I have health records. Approx 16 months old, 2 feet in length. \$225 and I am willing to deliver if you live within 30 miles of Georgia Southern. 4043929381



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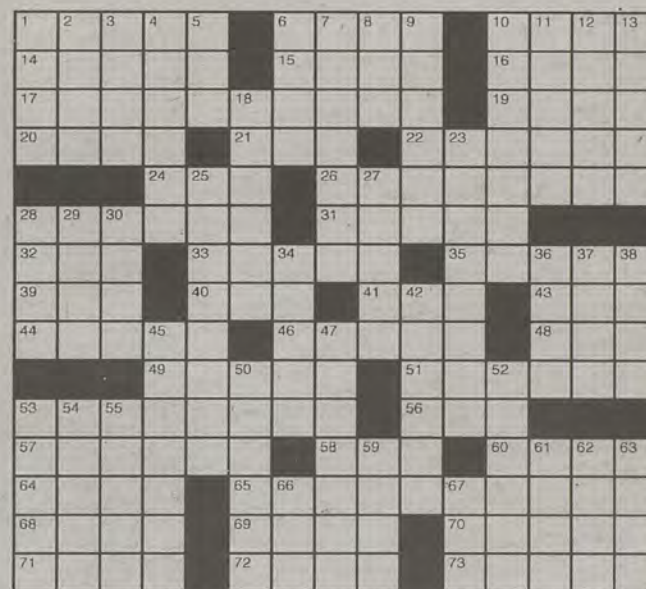
Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 "Rocket Man" rocker John
- 6 Scat!
- 10 Dice dots
- 14 Tropical vine
- 15 Icy frost
- 16 Work group
- 17 Some pens
- 19 Old Norse inscription
- 20 Precinct
- 21 Greek letter
- 22 At the scene
- 24 Pester
- 26 Abandon
- 28 Actress Dee
- 31 Follow afterward
- 32 Title role for Will Smith
- 33 Tree knot
- 35 Churchill's gesture
- 39 Tailor's fastener
- 40 Sucker
- 41 Eisenhower
- 43 Beluga product
- 44 Type of iron
- 46 Pentium maker
- 48 "A-Team" performer
- 49 Italian port
- 51 At any time
- 53 One of Jason's adventurers
- 56 Pekoe, e.g.
- 57 Attached shed
- 58 ET's vehicle
- 60 Blackthorn
- 64 Needle case
- 65 Soaking in wine
- 68 Prod
- 69 Pension \$\$
- 70 Mark sale prices
- 71 Little piggies
- 72 Table staple
- 73 Idyllic gardens

DOWN

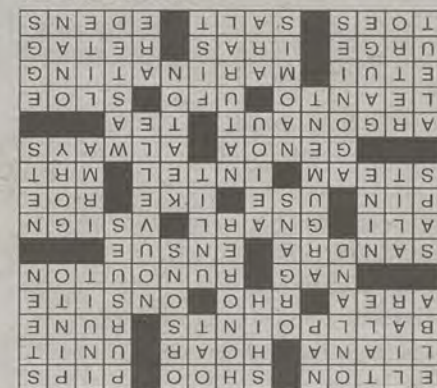
- 1 Isle near Corsica
- 2 Word breaker
- 3 Saga
- 4 Off the boat
- 5 Short sleep
- 6 Tzu
- 7 One showing respect
- 8 Feed-bag bite
- 9 Bean and Welles
- 10 Goes after
- 11 North Slope dweller
- 12 Painted pony
- 13 "Village Wedding" painter
- 18 Liver, heart, etc.
- 23 French cuisine
- 25 Verbal warfare
- 27 Not illuminated
- 28 Tree juices
- 29 Touched down
- 30 Half a golf course
- 34 Vowels
- 36 "The Joy of Cooking" writer
- 37 Like slasher movies
- 38 Court dividers
- 42 Comic Buster
- 45 Intense sufferings
- 47 Instinctive



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1/23/09

Solutions



- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 50 Judd and Campbell | 59 Closed hand |
| 52 Squandered | 61 Lo-cal |
| 53 Native Alaskan | 62 Son of Judah |
| 54 So out it's in | 63 Omelet need |
| 55 Measuring instrument | 66 Coach |
| | Parseghian |
| | 67 Exist |

WONDERMARK BY DAVID MALKI!

exhibit A is at WONDERMARK.COM



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Michael Capozzola's

CHEAP CITY

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Who Wants to Indict a MILLIONAIRE?



CAPOZZOLA

Health services provides care for students during cold, influenza season

Felicia Jordan

Guest writer

With cold season in full effect, students are heading to the GSU Health Center to get treatment for those viruses and air borne pathogens attacking them.

From January to early March the national accredited AAAHC (Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care) health center see their largest crowd.

Health fees cover access to all services, nurses, and laboratory work. Fees also pay for certain non-clinical education programs and public health programs.

Laboratory work that cannot be completed on site, certain vaccines, and medication from the pharmacy is not covered under student health fees.

There have been some recent changes made within health services this year. Health services no longer have a contracted pharmacy on site but a dispensary pharmacy.

In order to fill prescriptions, the prescription must be written by GSU Health Services providers.

However, providers can make arrangements with outside pharmacy in the area to deliver prescriptions to individuals.

Medications must be paid for with cash, check, Mastercard, Visa, or Eagle Express.

"At some point we want to have a full pharmacy," Paul Ferguson, director of health services and president of Southern College Health Association,



Chris Buchanan/STAFF

said.

With the cost of health care on the rise, the center is doing all they can to make services and prescriptions affordable all the way due to insurance policies. The health center does have the ability to file insurance.

"The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia has contracted with Pearce & Pearce

Inc. to provide voluntary and mandatory student health insurance plans for all 35 Institutions of the University System of Georgia," Ferguson said.

For students seeking an insurance plan, he or she can obtain premiums from this program. Spring and summer payments are combined together.

The policy started on Jan. 1 and ends on July 31, 2009 and the fall plan starts Aug. 1, 2009 and

ends Dec. 31, 2008.

Open Enrollment occurs during the first 31 days of the coverage term of Fall and Spring/Summer terms.

For more information on the plan, visit the Pearce and Pearce Inc website at <http://www.pearceandpearce.com> and www.studentinsurance.com or call 1-800-222-6491.

Come by the Health Center located on Forest Drive for a printed copy of the insurance policy offered to students.

Students with more than four credit hours can access the plan and those with fewer are allowed to receive a waiver.

"Upward Bound kids are given medical help through our facilities as well," Ferguson said.

Patient Support provides ways to fund non-insured students with the health care they need. The program verifies illness and tries to find alternatives for referrals.

With the growth of the university in the last few years, the Health Services is looking to expand the facility in the future.

"We see 140 to 150 students a day and approximately 130 students during non infection season on average per day and it goes up every year," Ferguson said.

The center is looking to create a wellness center for students to come and go quickly with a pharmacy out front.

"This way we keep the healthy individuals from the sick and it will open up space for the center," Ferguson said.

Center for International Studies hosts 'International conversation hour' on Fridays

By Anthony Viscintainer

Guest writer

Last Friday, the Center for International Studies hosted the first International Conversation Hour of the semester. This event, held every Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., is a chance to meet a diverse group of people and is open to all students.

The purpose of the International Conversation Hour is to get local students talking to students from abroad. "It's not just for international students. It's mainly for international students and American students to interact with each other," said Angie Threatte, the coordinator of the event.

The program has undergone a number of changes in the past few years: most notably, changes in name and size.

Threatte recalls when she first began working on the project: "Back in 2004, it was a lot smaller,

and they called it 'International Coffee Hour.' It's a lot bigger now we had to move from Union room 1280 to the Union Ballroom, because so many people started coming. And we changed the name to 'International Conversation Hour.'"

It is a sizeable event. Usually, from 150 to 180 people attend. The atmosphere is intended to be relaxed: "it's more of a social get-together than a question and answer session," says Threatte.

The International Conversation Hour is also intended to be a fun and interesting activity. Meeting new people can be awkward, so there are a lot of ice-breaking activities available.

"We have fun stuff to do... just different kinds of activities to get them to interact with each other," says Threatte, "it's a lot of fun."

Refreshments are provided by various sponsor groups. Threatte is also responsible for coordinating the food sponsors: "Normally, sponsors provide food every [Friday]. Sometimes we get Papa Johns, and sometimes ladies from different

church parishes cook for us."

This upcoming Friday, the food will be provided by Baptist Collegiate Ministries.

The ICH also helps get students involved in a number of international programs that the Center for International Studies offers.

The Cross-Cultural Friendships Program, for example, gives students from the USA the opportunity to make friends from outside the country, and vice versa.

Threatte explained how it works: "We basically pair up an international and an American student for a day. They can go shopping, watch a movie, or just do things like eat lunch together."

They do it for a certain number of hours a semester, and they get volunteer credit." It also provides a way for students to learn about other countries and cultures on a more personal level.

Another example of a program offered,

though this one is focused on international students, is the Global Ambassadors program.

This program gives international students a chance to be a "Global Ambassador:" to talk about themselves and their countries at various locations across the Statesboro area.

Often, these students will get to give presentations at schools, on things ranging from their cultural beliefs to the foods and products of their homelands.

The International Conversation Hour is a part of the ongoing effort to increase communications between peoples of different origins and world-views here at Georgia southern.

Threatte expressed the CIS's eagerness for students to be involved: "Tell everyone that we'd love to have them."

For more information on the ICH and the programs offered by the CIS, go to <http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/international/index.html>.

Students voice concerns over cost of student fees included in tuition

By Tiffany Colston
Guest Writer

The average cost for tuition for a college freshman entering Georgia Southern University is \$4,248 per year.

This does not include the cost of other necessities that are essential to college life such as money for books, room and board, health, transportation and recreation and activity fees.

Some of these services that are offered are essential to the college experience for some, but not others.

Compared to GSU's tuition, \$1,438 for in state students, tuition at the University of Georgia is \$6,030 per year.

On the other hand, tuition at Georgia Tech is less expensive than it is at UGA costing \$4,648 per year, which is \$400 less than tuition at GSU.

Many students chose to attend GSU because in comparison to their top choice of universities, GSU was cheaper.

For freshmen at GSU taking a full load of courses, there are other mandatory fees they have to pay aside from the standard fees mentioned above.

For instance, the technology fee at GSU is \$75 per semester and the transportation fee is \$45 per semester. Also, the RAC fee which allows students to access recreational facilities is \$140 per semester.

Senior Kelly Jones feels that she gets her money's worth when she uses the campus transportation system. Unlike some students that don't ride the bus at GSU, she rides it daily.

Not all students enrolled at the university attend the Health Center, the RAC or ride the campus bus.

According to some students the Health Center, the RAC and the bus system were created to be convenient and accommodating, but they are not functioning accordingly.

This creates a problem for people who don't utilize places such as the bus and the RAC, but are still forced to pay these fees.

According to Kay Turner, an administrative secretary at the RAC, it offers a number of facilities for students to enjoy such as an indoor and outdoor pool, cardio machines, basketball courts, an indoor and outdoor track and several weight rooms.

Turner feels that the student body gets the most for their money when they pay the RAC fee.

"Students voted several years ago about having a RAC fee and students strongly supported the idea of having one," she said.

Junior Cassandra Ohaneyne is a student who

doesn't use the RAC very often, and feels that the RAC fee is too expensive.

"I think that to improve the current system that people should be charged a daily usage fee when they do go to the RAC.

That would be more efficient and that would alleviate the problem of people who don't use the facility being charged a RAC fee," she said.

Again, while the health fee at GSU is \$83 per semester, students at UGA pay \$183 per semester for healthcare services, but unlike our university they are charged an additional \$25 copayment fee for all visits during urgent care hours.

Georgia Tech's health fee is closer to ours at \$88, and it covers all of the standard services that GSU does.

The Health Center provides a variety of medical services to students including vaccinations, physical examinations, prescription medications, emergency care in addition to health insurance and STD screenings.

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia recently renewed its contract with the Pearce & Pearce, Inc, in order to provide students at all Georgia universities with health insurance for the 2008-2009 academic year.

There will be two different mandatory plans for students who are required to have insurance.

Those who are required to have insurance will have an insurance premium charged to their tuition bills or have the option to waive these fees provided they have a pre-approved health insurance plan.

The physical examinations at the center offer various laboratory tests which are used to evaluate the overall health of students.

For example, the women's health examination entails a basic series of lab tests. For students who are not insured these tests are available to students at a nominal fee which has to be paid before the examination.

Director of Health Services, Paul Ferguson states that although there are many services available to the student body, some others are not.

"There's a mandatory health fee that students have to pay that's a part of their tuition and fees which gives them access to staffing facilities and it also covers visits to women's healthcare providers. On the other hand, it doesn't cover lab referrals or the cost of pharmaceuticals," he said.

According to senior Tremaine David, people who do not use the Health Center shouldn't be charged a health fee.

"I do not use the Health Center because I prefer to see my family doctor," he said. "so I have no use for it."

Your fees broken down

Student activity
fee
16%

extra fee
4%

Transportation
13%



GRAPHIC BY LAURA PALLINI/STAFF

Give Advice and Get Advice

The George-Anne is looking for students interested in writing for our opinions section. Those interested can contact Claire Gallam, the Managing Editor for News, at ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu or come by the office on the top floor of the Williams Center.

Like to keep your opinions to yourself but need advice?

Our website gadaily.com is excited to announce a new advice feature. News editor Shannon Knepp is offering her help to any questions or concerns you may have in topics spanning from school to relationships. All you have to do is e-mail your questions to gameo@georgia-southern.edu and Shannon will respond back on her blog on www.gadaily.com.



Special Photo

Carey Hilliard's comes to Statesboro

By Ben Carroll
Staff Writer

On Thursday, January 22, Carey Hilliard's Barbecue and Seafood restaurant started construction on its eighth restaurant with their groundbreaking ceremony.

Carey Hilliard's is based out of Savannah, where it has six locations, and it has one more in Charleston, N.C. The first restaurant opened in 1960 in Savannah, and some time this summer, they plan on opening their first location in Statesboro, which was announced last summer, which is projected for some time in August. "We don't want to give an exact date, but we hope to have it opened before school starts in August," said T.J. Hilliard, the General Manager of the new Statesboro location.

Even though this is their first opening, this isn't the first association they have had with the Statesboro area. T.J. Hilliard and Tim Hilliard, the President of Carey Hilliard's restaurant, both attended Georgia Southern University. "I attended college here 30 years ago and this is where I met my wife," said Tim Hilliard.

With competition for jobs with only a few places to work and the combination of college students and the community looking for jobs, Carey Hilliard's will help employ 150-200 people.

There is a buzz surrounding the opening of Carey Hilliard's. "We have been expecting this for some time," said Steve Rushing, the President of the Statesboro-Bulloch County Chamber. "Carey Hilliard's reputation is far proceeded; we already know about the product and the restaurants and we are certainly excited to see it in Statesboro." The groundbreaking of this restaurant brought in some of the leaders of the surrounding area; the mayor pro tem and the Statesboro City of Commerce.

"We picked Statesboro because of the amazing growth, population, and the college," said T.J. Hilliard.

"We decided on Statesboro Crossing because its great location with the Hobby Lobby and T.J. Max and this area is growing tremendously and it's the best location for us in Statesboro," he said.

The menu is said to be the exact same as all the other Carey Hilliard's, but they since they are trying to appeal to the younger college crowd, the look will be a little different and more contemporary. Whether the inside will be decorated in support of Georgia Southern University, T.J. Hilliard said, "Maybe, but we'll keep it a secret for now."

"We are so happy today that they have chosen to come our great city Statesboro," said Joe Brannen, the Mayor Pro tem, at the groundbreaking ceremony.

Opinion: G-A correspondent sings in Japan

By Derek Joyce
Guest Writer

Well, I have been here for a few months, and despite the near constant studying I have to do, I still manage to get my groove on during the weekends. That's right, starting on Thursday, it is party time. But so we get things straight, yes, the Japanese do have a different way of getting down and funky.

First of all, here's a small analysis of the national pastimes other than sumo and baseball. For the average Japanese college student, there are about three main venues of relaxation and good times: clubbing, drinking, and karaoke.

Karaoke, pronounced exactly as it is spelled, is probably Japan's most famous non food or sport related export. For those who don't know, Karaoke is singing to a song with the artist's vocal track cut out. On a screen, the lyrics are displayed and highlighted in time to the song. In America, karaoke is a great opportunity to show off your singing and dancing talents. If on a stage, there is no opportunity to make a name for yourself and get on Youtube. If in a booth or Karaoke house, then what better time is there to drink your fill, hang out with friends, and wake up with a hangover and without a voice?

The Japanese, however, have a more relaxing tone to this. Instead of treating karaoke as a Japanese Idol (And I am quite sure there is not one), everyone hangs back, maybe drinks some tea they brought from the local convenience store, and continue on until 5am, when the place closes. And I can tell you from experience that the Japanese Ballroom Dance club and I did continue until 5 a.m. and I was kindly ridiculed for not singing any Japanese songs. Sorry, I still can't read Kana that fast, let me stick to Bon Jovi, Green Day, and Linkin Park.

The booths usually seat about six people, though that doesn't stop up to 12 or so people from squeez-

ing in. Of course, there is the TV and I have to tell you, the music videos do not always match the song. To access the song list, which features several hundred at a time, there are two electronic devices on the table where you can type in the name of the artist or song that you want. For text, you can type using either Japanese or Roman characters. Either way, almost any song you can want will be there. However, to get foreign songs, you usually have to use a spate menu. Also, when singing a foreign song, you will see katakana over the text. Katakana is a third type of Japanese alphabet that is mainly used for foreign words so the Japanese can pronounce it.

Now, like almost everything else in Japan, there are de facto rules and customs to follow if with a Japanese group. To start things out, at the beginning of any karaoke session, if nobody volunteers to begin (and usually nobody will if with a Japanese group) then the first singer will be decided by a game of *Jan Ken Po* (Rock Paper Scissors, but with many players). Once one person goes, usually the rest will be willing to go. However, so everyone gets a turn, take time before putting in a new song. A list should never be more than 10 songs and that is really high. Also, without the permission of the main singer, do not barge in the middle of a song or start singing backup. Other than that, just have fun.

There is little question why karaoke is a huge hit here. It can be relaxing or energetic, it is a great way to be with friends, and provides a unique way to bond.

Honestly, I feel ashamed for waiting so long to do this. A small suggestion for those back home, next time you try karaoke, try a relaxed tone. Forget the competition and find a new kind of fun. If there is one thing I am learning here it is this: Do everything to ways. See and appreciate the differences and similarities between them.



Special Photo

Student debt on the rise

Students faced with excessive debt of over \$19,000 after graduation in student loans and credit cards, experts say

By Katherine Cox

Staff Writer

A recent study by the National Center for Education Statistics shows that 50 percent of recent college graduates have student loans, with an average student loan debt of \$10,000.

With the average cost of college increasing at twice the rate of inflation, it is difficult for college students to get enough scholarships and grants to pay for college and basic necessities.

Erin Armstrong, 21, a science and kinesiology major here at Georgia Southern (GSU), is carrying around \$30,000 in student loans and she still has two years of physician's assistant school to attend. Eventually, she expects to have upwards of \$70,000 in student loan debt.

"I have a job, and it is still hard for me to make ends meet," Armstrong said.

"I just kept borrowing more and more and now when I look at it, I'm under a giant heap of money."

In 2006 the amount of student debt increased when the rate on new federally guaranteed student loans hit a fixed 6.8 percent, the highest rate since 2001, states the National Center for Education Statistics. The NCES also states that debt comes at a time when the average graduate owes \$19,000. Many undergrads, though, have debt exceeding \$40,000.

According to the Project on Student Debt, a non-profit advocacy group, the average debt for a college graduate has soared 50% in the past decade, after inflation.

Today, students who don't want to borrow at high rates have few other options. Twenty-five years ago, students who wanted to avoid debt could use money from part-time and summer jobs to help pay for college.

But since then, college tuition has risen twofold. Tuition has soared, and the low-wage jobs that students tend to hold just aren't keeping up.

Lydia Price, a senior at GSU, waitresses at Longhorn Steakhouse, and brings in just under \$600 a month.

"I took the job because I wanted to ease the burden off of my parents to pay for my college," she said. "I had to start taking out loans, though, just to stay above water."

Student loans through government financial aid aren't the only type of debt that students today are acquiring.

According to the United Marketing Service (UCMS) the average number of credit cards per student is 2.8.

More and more college students are forced to use credit cards to pay for basic essentials such as books and school supplies.

Credit card solicitation on college and university campuses is common.

A study done by the Education Resources Institute found that 24 percent of students applied for a card through a campus representative or advertisement.

Students also reported applying through the mail (37 percent) or at a business (36 percent).

"I first started off with one credit card to get my credit established," Armstrong said. "I still only have that one, thankfully!"

A recent report by The Project on Student Debt found that nearly three of five members of the class of 2007 left school with debt.

The average debt graduates carried that year was \$20,098, a 6 percent increase over the previous year.

According to the Georgia Southern financial aid department, the average debt among students upon graduation is \$18,618, a little lower than the average debt of other college students.

In a survey taken to determine financial need of the students at GSU, 50 percent of first-year students and 59 percent of full time undergraduates were deemed in need of financial aid.

Almost 100 percent of both groups received the financial aid they needed.

While there is more and more research being conducted to explore why student debt loads are exploding, studies indicate that today's students expect to live a much higher standard of living than in the past.

New technology, travel, apartment style dorm living, and eating out have all become "necessities" instead of luxuries.

"I felt like I needed to live in the nicest apartment my freshman year, living in a dorm was out of the question," Armstrong said.

Now she, like many other students are seeking a cheaper living arrangement, however tough that may be to find.

Students who get a handle on their spending and their available funds early can avoid the stress of being unable to pay off their bills and having to work more and more hours during college in order to juggle their finances.



Special Photo

The SGA is Looking for a New Vice President of Finance

Position Description:

Major responsibilities include, but are not limited to: overseeing the Student Activity Budget Committee (ABC), Campus Life and Enrichment Committee, Community Service Committee, and Financial Advisory Committee (FAC). S/he holds office hours for 10 hours per week. Apply at <http://studentorg.georgiasouthern.edu/sga/>.

Specific:

-Process fund requests for organizations/individuals approved by FAC committee (Fall and Spring)

-Assists with SGA ABC budget presentations (Spring)

-Assists with Emergency Loans



Georgia Southern University
Student Government Association
Russell Union Office of Student Activity

Lady Eagles defeat Elon 59-29 behind Melson milestone

By Latrice Williams
Staff writer

Monday, the Georgia Southern Women's Basketball teams squared off against the winless Elon, defeating the Phoenix 59-29.

The Eagles won the tipoff but Elon is the first to score. Ashley Rivens hit a long three to give the Eagles their first points of the game.

GSU and Elon went on a scoring drought for five and a half minutes but was broken by Jessica Geiger.

The score at halftime had the Eagles up 19-11. In the first half, the Eagles were seven for 27 from the field, while Elon was three for 21.

Coming into the second half, the Eagles found an offensive rhythm to give them a 17 point lead over the Phoenix.

With 2:57 left in the second half, the Eagles obtained a 26 point lead over the Phoenix.

In the second half, the Eagles shot 50 percent from the field and were perfect from the three-point arc, 3-3. Elon shot only 26 percent from the field that half and were 0-7 for three pointers.

Ashley Melson joined the 1,000 point club as the eighteenth member to score 1,000 points in her career. She had 13 points and seven rebounds in tonight's victory.

Jamie Navarro and J'Lisia Ogburn were behind Melson in scoring, each with 12 points.

"It feels great to have accomplished this. I didn't even know I was that close. I wasn't keeping track or anything. It's something that I wanted to accomplish while I was here and I'm so grateful that I did," said Melson.

Melson also paced the team in rebounds with seven and Rivens was right behind with five.

The Elon Phoenix are winless in the SoCon this season, but that didn't mean the Eagles had an advantage over them.

"Just because they haven't won that many games doesn't mean we were guaranteed the win. Coach preaches to us all the time about not paying attention to the other teams' record. He just wants us to come out here and play hard," said Melson.

The Eagles get back into action Monday, February 2, against the Western Carolina Catamounts at 5 p.m. at Hanner Fieldhouse.



Rob Eakins/STAFF

Lady Eagle Brittney Nelson goes up for a shot in a recent game with Wofford.

Georgia Southern University Your Blueprint to Success!

Returning Room Selection Time Line 2009

Monday, December 1, 2008

Returning room selection application available at www.gsuhousing.com/signup2009/. All students wanting to participate in returning room selection must complete an application to be eligible to participate.

Friday, January 30, 2009

All students that want to participate in returning room selection must complete an application by this date. Students that do not complete an application by this date will not be able to participate in the 1st round of the on-line room selection process in February!

Wednesday, February 11, - Sunday, February 15, 2009

All students with an application will be able to select a room by logging into the RMS student web at <https://rmsweb.aux.georgiasouthern.edu/>. Students will be able to select their room in Centennial Place, Southern Courtyard, Watson Commons and University Villas as well as their roommates. Rooms will be available on a first come, first serve basis.

Monday, February 16, 2009

Residence Hall contracts will be e-mailed to the address on file and available on-line for students to activate!

Friday, March 6, 2009

Residence Hall contracts need to be activated and a \$200.00 pre-payment paid by the above date to secure a space in University Housing for Fall 2009 or the housing assignment will be canceled!



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SPORTS

COMPLETE COVERAGE

The Lady Eagles basketball team defeats conference opponent Elon, 59-29, last night at the Hanner fieldhouse. Look inside (p. 22) for complete game coverage.



Rob Eakins/STAFF



Rob Eakins/STAFF

“Pack the House in Pink” highlights busy Eagles weekend

Compiled by Staff

The annual “Pack the House in Pink” was the highlight of a busy weekend in Georgia Southern athletics that saw five different Eagles teams in competition.

Both basketball teams played in front of pink-clad crowds on Saturday and both teams earned conference wins on their home court of Hanner Fieldhouse.

The Lady Eagles defeated UNCG, 53-45, behind a career high performance by Jessica Geiger. Geiger bested her highest scoring total by scoring 17 points to lead the Eagles. A crowd of 1,368 watched GSU improve to a record of 12-8 (7-4 in the Southern Conference). The Lady

Eagles are currently (before Monday's game) tied for third place in the SoCon.

The men's basketball team also cruised by their opponent, Furman, in a 69-53. Antonio Hanson led the Eagles in scoring with 17 points, while Julian Allen added 13 and Ben Drayton contributed 12 points. A crowd of 3,225 watched the Eagles improve to 7-10 (5-4 in SoCon). The Eagles are currently fourth in the SoCon South Division.

The GSU swimming and diving team also competed Saturday. Despite a strong showing, the Eagles fell to North Florida, 177-119. The team did place first in five events but fell to a 5-8 record. This was their third straight loss. Caroline Beviard won her 200-yard freestyle race and Lauren Parr

finished first in the 200-yard butterfly.

Courtney Martz, last week's CCSA Swimmer of the Week, won the 50-yard free and Courtney McCarthy won the 100-yard butterfly. Diver Katie Creighton, who was honored with the CCSA Diver of the Week award last week, finished first in the one meter dive.

The Swimming and Diving team will conclude their season this Saturday at noon at the RAC against Campbell. They will compete in the CCSA Championships, in Athens, Feb. 19-21.

The track and field team began their season with a strong showing at the UNC Classic. The Eagles had three top five performances. Jasmine Lightning finished fourth in the High Jump and Demetrise Anthony finished fourth in the

Long Jump. The Eagles also placed fifth in the distance medley.

The team next competes on Friday at the Niswonger Classic in Johnson City, TN.

The women's tennis team also began their season this weekend. They split the weekend games, losing Saturday to Georgia State but rebounding for a win over Kennesaw State, 4-3.

The Lady Eagles return to the Hanner Courts for their first home matches of the season this coming weekend. On Saturday (Jan. 31) they face North Florida at 1 p.m. On Sunday, they will square off against Hampton at noon.

The men's tennis team will begin their season on Sunday against Hampton at 2:30 p.m. at the Hanner Courts.